

'We are determined to stay in the lead' — Chairman FACING THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE

CHAIRMAN Bryan Weston and **Managing Director** John Roberts embarked on a series of roadshow meetings in July and August to talk to staff about Manweb's financial results for 1990/91 and related issues.

The 'Review of the Year' roadshows were held as many staff will not have the opportunity to attend Manweb's Annual General Meeting of shareholders (for guidance on whether you will be able to attend the AGM see story, page 5).

Introducing the presentation Mr Weston highlighted the fact that Manweb's shares opened with the highest price of any of the RECs and were again leading the field.

He said: "That achievement is something we can all be

proud of, because each and every one of us helped towards putting Manweb at the top. And I am determined that we are going to stay in the lead."

Mr Weston addressed some 'burning issues', including the media coverage of directors' salary increases following the 1990/91 results.

He said: "The press would normally only be interested in the financial results, but unfortunately there were a few journalists looking for a story. The question of my salary came up and in replying, one

of the non-Executive Board Members inadvertently misled the press and we found ourselves in the middle of a political row.

"The confusion occurred because, although the Government knew pay increases were going to take place, they were not aware of the exact amount, as this was only decided after flotation."

Defending his own increase Mr Weston said: "Chairmen's salaries in the nationalised industries had been lagging behind for many years. It was

inevitable that when the catching up happened it would be significant."

Mr Weston's job had also changed significantly on entering the private sector.

He said: "We now have responsibility to 180,000 shareholders to run this company profitably. We have to fund our expenditure by raising money in an open market place. We have to manage the risk of buying electricity in an untried market, of negotiating contracts with generators or customers that we have never

done before."

On salaries generally he stressed that Manweb was now one of the top 200 companies in the UK, and as such had to ensure a proper salary structure was in place throughout the organisation. Attracting the best people to Manweb, he said, was in everyone's interest.

Moving on to rumours of reorganisation, Mr Weston said the impact of the VSS scheme needed to be assessed before any further changes were contemplated.

He added: "What I can tell you is that we will definitely have 10 operational units - 10 districts. We see a need to have that number to be able to maintain our distribution network efficiently."

It was unlikely that Network Services staff would see any significant changes. Within Power Marketing's Energy Marketing and Income and Accounting departments the balance of work between Head Office and districts was being examined, though no changes had been decided.

"Before anything is implemented there will be a full consultation with both staff and full time trade union officers," Mr Weston said.

"As the world in which we operate changes, so must we or we will be left behind. What I can promise is that we will do our best to make the changes as painless as possible and we will let you know as soon as we can what that means to you, as an individual."

The Chairman then handed over to John Roberts who analysed Manweb's performance during the year.

Mr Roberts said the year had been excellent - a first class start to Manweb's privatised status. He explained that Manweb was comparing its actual results with the forecasts given in the Prospectus.

by Graeme Cooper



HELLO hello hello! What have we here? It was a fair cop when staff at Manweb's Crewe shop raised more than £800 during a charity fun day.

Staff donned fancy dress for the festivities, managing

It's a fair cop!

to tot up a grand total of £853.70p for the Leighton Hospital Scanner Appeal.

Caught red-handed, one

of the local bobbies is pictured "nicking" an apple from Wicked Queen Carol Looker, Dormouse Joanna

Birchall and Dwarves Pat Reece and Mandy Steer. (Picture courtesy of Dave Pearson, Crewe Chronicle).

Sign up for prize draw

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Good luck for the future

CLWYD staff leaving the company under the VSS scheme are pictured being wished good luck for the future by District Manager Doug Willacy (front centre).

Those taking 'early retirement' are as follows (years of service in brackets):

Jean Porteus, Switchboard Operator (12); Stephanie Murphy, Admin Assistant (27); Doreen Jones, Clerk (21); Jackie Espin, Clerk (14); Gwylfa Jones, Clerk (33); Jim Jones, Stores Foreman (30); Jack Davies, Installation Inspector (39); Ray Walley, Installation Inspector (46).

Eric Davies, Foreman Mains (37); John Twist, Overhead Linesman (31); Tony Manfredi, Foreman Mains (37); Malcolm Jones, Electrician (45); John Davies, Cable Jointer (37); Archie Jones, Meter Reader (30); Roy Hughes, Electrical Fitter (26); Gerald

Porteous, Clerk (19); Les Adams, Overhead Linesman (38).

Brian Davies, Installation Inspector (36); Bill Adams, Overhead Linesman (33); Ifor Roberts, Foreman Mains (40); John Thomas, Meter Operative, (16); Glyn Evans, Driver/General Duties Assistant (25); Tommy Davies, Foreman Statutory (37).

Hefin Evans, Substation Attendant (36); Brynley Thomas, Craftsman Electrician (46); Alan Jones, Storekeeper (30); Fred Tonge, Clerk (17); Alun Jones, General Duties Assistant (36); Bill Price, Overhead Linesman (32).

Norman Davies, HGV Driver (26); Ivor Nethercott,

Foreman (36); Eric Roberts, Foreman (41); Pete Espin, Electrician (26); Tommy Davies, Foreman (47); David Jones, Electrician (41); Billy Hughes, Cable Jointer (18); Bill Midward, Chargehand Storekeeper (12).

Eric Keen, Chargehand Storekeeper (41); John Lloyd, Craft Attendant (31); Bill Simon, Craft Attendant (40); Frank Sullivan, Craftsman Cable Jointer (24); Mike Thomas, Draughtsman (21).

Prue Buckley, Clerical Assistant (22); Brian Griffiths, 1st Engineer (40); Brian Sells, Clerical Assistant (13); Jim Brierley, 2nd Engineer (39); John Woolley, Craftsman Electrician (30).

District's departures

MID Cheshire staff have recently said goodbye and good luck to a group of colleagues who have left under the VSS scheme. They are:

Brian Johnson, who joined the company as a Mechanical Fitter in Nantwich in 1951, later progressing to Transport Supervisor for Mid Cheshire and Oswestry.

Arthur Bell, who started out as a Labourer at Northwich Depot in 1951. After becoming a Linesman in 1962, he progressed to Chargehand in 1989.

Ronald Hayes, who joined Manweb as a Labourer at Northwich Depot in 1962, moving up to Chargehand General Duties Assistant in 1967.

Rodney Simpson, who joined Mid Cheshire District as an Apprentice in 1973, and became a qualified Contracting Electrician in 1977.

Barry Harding, who started out as a Public

Lighting Electrician based at Northwich Depot in 1970, later progressing to Chargehand in 1973. He became Mid Cheshire Contracting Electrician in 1977.

Robert Edgeley, who began his career as a Draughtsman at Sandiway House in 1957, moved to the Lock Street Depot at Northwich in 1961, and later became Drawing Office Manager.

Phil Watts, who joined the Street Lighting Department at Lock Street, Northwich, in 1956, progressing to Assistant Stock Checker in 1963. He became Senior Clerical Assistant in Finance, Head Office, in 1970 before returning to Mid Cheshire in 1972 to his final position with the company, Admin Assistant, Material Control.

CONTACT

The newspaper for staff and retired employees of Manweb plc, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4LR, telephone 0244 377111.

If you've an idea for a story or photograph, write, phone or come and talk to Editor Jackie Unsworth in Public Relations, Room 5E1, Head Office, ext. 2090, or Graeme Cooper on ext. 2099.

At the following locations you can talk directly to one of Contact's District correspondents:

North Mersey: Edna Courtney, ext. 2167

Liverpool: Margaret Walsh, ext. 4141

Mid-Mersey: Mike Townson, ext. 2231

Dee Valley: Kath Sadowski, ext. 2193

North Wirral: Mike Townson, ext. 2202

Mid-Cheshire: Diana Wood, ext. 2117

Clwyd: Rod Taylor, ext. 2118

Gwynedd: Hefyn Thomas, ext. 2250

Oswestry: Ian Mould, ext. 2230

Aberystwyth: Keith Jones, ext. 2202

Hoyle Training Centre: Pauline Lewis, ext. 251.

End of an era

IT was the end of an era for a group of Dee Valley staff when they gathered for a special send off.

District Manager Jim McLennan is pictured (right) wishing the eight colleagues all the best for their 'early retirement' under the VSS scheme.

Left to right are: Andy Cummins, Reporting Centre Attendant (34 years' service), Lou Crosby, 1st Engineer, Network Services (38 years), Barbara Walley, Clerical Assistant, Power Marketing (12 years), Denis Owens, Reporting Centre Attendant (34 years), Roger Restieaux, Admin Assistant, Network Services (17 years),

CHANGING FACES



Floral farewells

MID Mersey staff turned out in force to wish a group of colleagues good luck for their 'early retirement'.

District Manager Des Lock is pictured (front row, fourth from left) presenting flowers and other gifts to those leaving the company under the VSS scheme.

They are as follows:

Allan Hill, 1st Engineer, Energy Marketing (35 years' service); Alan Horrocks, Energy Marketing Assistant (32 years); Margaret Ward, PAG1, Customer Accounts (40 years); Amanda Jane Cullen, Clerical Assistant, Customer

Accounts (seven years).

Geoffrey Lamb, 1st Engineer, Network Services (40 years); Irene Pickavant, District Manager's Secretary (nine years); Norma Denny, Clerical Assistant, Network Services (10 years) and Mavis Hewitt, Material Controller (19 years).

Also leaving Manweb but not on the photograph are Stephanie Jayne Scully, Clerical Assistant, Customer Accounts (11 years) and Edward Keogh, General Duties Assistant (32 years).

An early retirement for Trevor



DEE Valley Energy Sales Manager Keith Hibbert (left) makes a presentation to 1st Engineer, Energy Marketing, Trevor Edwards and his wife Cynthia.

Trevor recently took early retirement from Manweb under the VSS scheme. He joined the company at Oswestry District in the 1950s as an Apprentice Electrician and gradually worked his way up the promotion ladder.

In recent years Trevor was Manweb's main source of contact with the five local authorities operating in Dee Valley District.



Winston Woodall, Electrician, Network Services (34 years); Phil Keddie, Engineering Assistant (41 years) and Mary Jones, Clerical Supervisor, Network Services (23 years).

Another Dee Valley employee who has left the District under

the VSS scheme, but who was not present for the photograph, is Harold Williams, Transport Supervisor, who has clocked up 24 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

Meanwhile, Jointer's Mate Gerald David Price, 65, has

taken normal retirement from Dee Valley District after completing 35 years' service.

And Public Lighting Attendant Ken Williams, who has worked in the industry for 34 years, has taken early retirement from Rhostyllen at the age of 50.



Send-off is a family affair

MID Mersey Office Manager Ena Harding has retired from Manweb after clocking up 26 years' service.

She joined the company in 1947 as a Junior Shorthand Typist, and left in 1954 to start a family. In 1965 Ena returned as a General Clerk, Customer Accounting, and later became Clerical Assistant in Commercial Work Control. In 1972 she transferred to Material Control and the following year moved to General Services on the Bonus and Personnel Section as a Clerical Assistant.

In 1979 she was promoted to Admin Assistant and following a further promotion in 1988 became Office Manager.

Whilst with Manweb Ena was involved in various committees - HESAC, LJCC, Benevolent Society and 300 Club. A keen environmentalist and a popular member of staff, she was presented with numerous gifts, including Crown Derby China, and flowers from her friends and colleagues.

Ena, whose husband, two daughters and grandchildren attended her retirement presentation, is pictured receiving her gifts from District Manager Des Lock.



Laying foundations for the future...

DEE Valley Mains Manager John McDonald (centre right) makes a presentation to 2nd Engineer Bob Lewis, who has retired after 30 years with Manweb.

Bob, who was based at New Crane Street, started out as an apprentice electrician with Courtauld's, but left at 22 to join Llay Main Colliery as an Underground Electrical Foreman. Four years later he joined BTH Switchgear Company as part of the outside construction/commissioning team.

After three years Bob joined

Manweb's Technical team based in Newgate Street, Chester, and after a further three years he was on the move again, this time just two miles down the road to Chester District Office as an Assistant Section Engineer.

One of the biggest jobs masterminded by Bob was the changeover of the HV system in

Chester city from 6.6kV to 11kV without a flicker to the system!

Married with three sons, Bob has some constructive ideas for his retirement - he plans to build a bungalow in the grounds of his existing house, which he also built. He is also keen on horticulture, and has a well-stocked garden to keep in order.



Gwyn has a golfing goal

NORTH Mersey Network Services 1st Engineer Gwyn Williams has retired after more than 40 years with Manweb.

Gwyn (58) joined the company in 1949, working in Betws-y-Coed before moving to North Mersey District where he spent most of his career. Among his achievements he can list becoming Manweb's then youngest Section Engineer.

Responsible mainly for the Bootle and Kirkby areas, Gwyn was well known and respected at Bridle Road for his expertise and knowledge of the distribution system.

North Mersey Mains Manager Don McRae said:

"Everyone was always grateful to Gwyn for his experience and help. Immediately before his retirement he was Acting Mains Manager, and I'd like to add my personal thanks for everything Gwyn's done here at Bridle Road and offer all our best wishes for the future."

A keen choral singer, Gwyn plans to keep up his interest during his retirement. His other main goal is to develop his interest in golf.

Gwyn is married and he and wife June live in Maghull. He is pictured (centre left) being wished well by Don McRae and Bridle Road colleagues past and present.

Shareholders are all set to benefit

MANWEB shareholders are all set to benefit from special offers on certain electrical appliances.

During August the Trading Division will be sending out personalised letters to every shareholder offering concessions on dishwashers, trouser presses, camcorders and CD midi stereo systems.

Manweb's Advertising and Promotions Manager Bill Gaywood said: "This is the first of a planned series of special concessions to our shareholders. It is also a test run for this type of direct marketing and we will be looking at the results with great interest."

The offers will include:

Dishwashers - 28 day free home trial, free 3kg drum of Sun powder and free connection to existing plumbing on the following four models:

Zanussi DS16TCR	£329.99
Whirlpool ADG623	£349.99
Hotpoint 7822	£359.99
Bauknecht GF5001	£359.99
Trouser Press - Corby 9000.	

Normal retail price	£129.99
Shareholder offer	£ 99.99

Camcorder - Sharp VLC690 VHS 'C' format.

Normal retail price	£599.99
Shareholder offer	£569.99

Plus free additional battery pack, normally worth £24.99 and four free camcorder tapes, worth £12.99. This product will also be offered on six months' interest free credit.

CD Midi - Sony Compact 352CD Midi Multiplay.

Normal retail price	£469.99
Shareholder offer	£399.99

Plus free Sony WMFX10 Personal Cassette/Radio, worth £29.99.

The shareholder letters, signed by Director Trading Peter Hopkins, will include vouchers to be presented at selected Manweb shops by those wishing to take advantage of the offers.

Alternatively, those wishing to purchase by credit card can use the 'Shareholder Hotline' on 0244 654321.

Free delivery is available for the dishwashers but not for the trouser press.

Staff terms will not be offered in addition to these shareholder concessions.

Bill Gaywood said: "The reasoning is twofold. Firstly, we believe the offers we have put together offer a first class deal that will not be available on the high street.

"Secondly we have been advised that a company cannot offer one group of shareholders a deal that is unavailable to any other group of shareholders. Therefore, if we offered 20 per cent staff discount on top of this, we would legally have to make the same offer to all."

The mail-out is due for completion by August 31 and the offers will run until September 30.

Plan to thwart thieves

THIEVES who steal valuable electrical cable will have a hard time selling their ill-gotten gains thanks to a scheme introduced by Manweb and North Wales Police.

Manweb has produced special display boards enabling scrap metal dealers to recognise cable that has been stolen from the company.

The Police will show the boards to local dealers, depriving thieves of an outlet for stolen material.

Manweb's Chester Mains Foreman Ted Dutton has worked on the project. He said: "Cable is often stolen from sites after it has been



laid, but before it is connected. We don't just lose the cable, we have to carry out extra jointing work, which takes time and money. This scheme will hopefully reduce levels of theft in our area."

Ted is pictured (right) launching the project with Manweb's Dee Valley Mains Manager John McDonald (centre) and Detective Constable George Donaldson, North Wales Police Community Liaison Officer.

Ambassadors lead the way

ONLY three months into the financial year, Manweb's Ambassador Club members have produced record-breaking leads worth £852,922 of business to the company.

The Alton Towers incentive scheme for June resulted in winners for all 10 districts, as follows:

North Mersey - K Jones; Liverpool - P Cato; Mid Mersey - C J Scott; Dee Valley - M J Machin; North Wirral - S Nardo; Mid Cheshire - K McGinley; Clwyd - J B Stephens; Gwynedd - R A Jones; Oswestry - G T Evans; Aberystwyth - J Braddock.

Free tickets plus a voucher for lunch were sent to the lucky winners, enabling them to sample the delights of Alton Towers at their leisure.

The winners of the Ambassador Club July incentive will be preparing themselves for clay target shooting on Saturday August 31. Members who missed that opportunity can hope for better luck in the 'fly fishing in Scotland' incentive, the results of which will be announced shortly.

If you are not the sporting type, September brings a less energetic way for you to enjoy yourself. Four winners will be invited to 'wine and dine' with their partner at an exclu-

sive hotel.

Details of this event are now on their way to Ambassador Club members, but even those who have not yet enrolled may wish to join in the fun by inputting their first lead. They stand the chance to 'strike it lucky' first time round.

The next incentive provides the chance for you to stock up on supplies of French wines and cheeses, with a weekend trip to Boulogne at stake.

Travelling by luxury coach, the trip gets underway at 7pm on Thursday November 14 from Head Office, with two nights' accommodation plus continental breakfast. All rooms will have private facilities. The journey back is on Sunday November 17, arriving at Head Office at around 7pm. Further details of this competition will be circulated nearer the event.

In October thoughts start turning to Christmas, and the Ambassador Club is offering a 'shopping in Chester' treat. Lunch at the Grosvenor Hotel is planned, followed by an afternoon of shopping -

with a little financial assistance!

The programme has something to appeal to everyone, and all you need to do to compete in these incentives is to be an active participant in the Ambassador Club and hope 'Lady Luck' shines on you. But remember, you need to input those leads to become a winner.

Further information can be obtained from your local Ambassador Club Liaison Officer, or contact Mary Goldon on Head Office extension 2885.

Crossword solution

Across: 1 Backlash, 5 Epic, 9 Clang, 10 Crucial, 11 Tsetse, 13 Shelf, 15 Idle, 17 Ousted, 19 Arcade, 21 Feat, 23 Thief, 25 Tenure, 28 Austria, 29 Lingo, 30 Deed, 31 Skin-deep.

Down: 1 Buck, 2 Chassis, 3 Light, 4 Scared, 6 Prize, 7 Cold feet, 8 Purser, 12 Side, 14 Postcard, 16 Late, 18 Effort, 20 Arrange, 22 Attack, 24 Issue, 26 Nylon, 27 Hoop.

Launch of best practice 'bible'

MANWEB's Power Marketing Division has launched its new customer accounting 'bible' following months of hard work by a special project group and steering committee.

The procedures manual, which will be regularly updated, is the main documentary source to all work carried out by Customer Accounts staff.

The first section covers meter reading, and the remaining sections on documentation, enquiries, debt and theft are now well under way with completion due by the end of September.

Director Power Marketing, Colin Leonard said: "Never before have Customer Accounting procedures been documented so comprehensively, where the views and ideas of District Customer Accounts Managers have been sought in order to achieve a best practice.

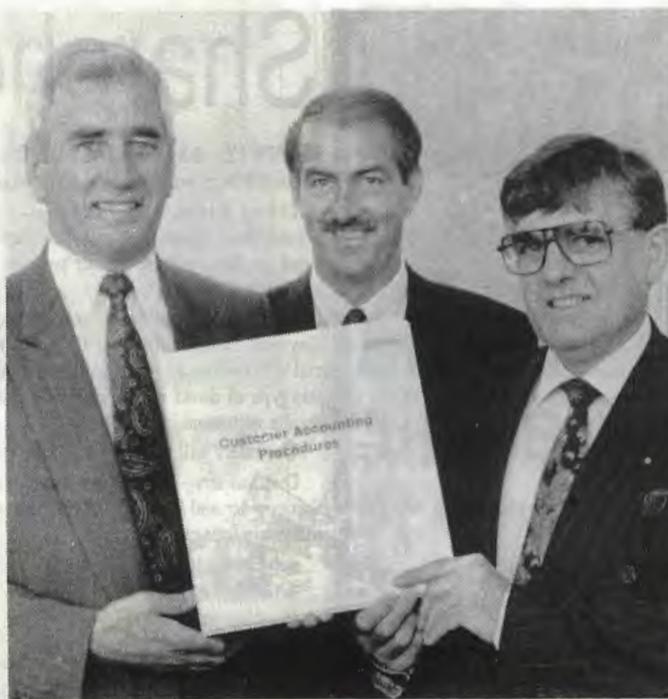
"I firmly believe these procedures will form the cornerstone of Customer Accounting in the future. They will provide a unique reference point to all the work that is carried out and make for a far more professional approach to

the way in which we operate.

"These procedures demonstrate Manweb's commitment to the future and our commitment to customer care and service. To this end it is important that these procedures are kept right up to date and are applied by all Customer Accounts staff."

The manual was the result of a major effort by Special Projects Manager Martyn Jones and his team - Sally Conder, a Principal Assistant from North Mersey; Alison Eakins, Principal Assistant on secondment from the Business Intelligence Unit; Steve Jones, Admin Assistant, District Liaison; Wyn Owen, Admin Assistant, Debt Control; Dave Smith, Principal Assistant, Liaison and Development, and Kate Walker, Clerical Supervisor, Credit Sales and Invoices.

Martyn said: "The team interviewed Customer Accounts staff at all levels to find out exactly



how each district operates. We also sought the views of Customer Accounts Managers, and from all this information we took the best practice and set it down in the form of a manual.

"The benefits of having a procedures document like this is that now everyone is working in the same way - using the best practice. That's good for the company and also for customers."

Each District has received a manual, and further copies will be made widely available to Customer Accounts staff within the next few weeks.

Pictured with the Customer Accounting Procedures manual are (l-r) Head of Income and Accounting Alan Wadcock, Special Project Manager Martyn Jones and Director Power Marketing Colin Leonard.

Brian picks up a civic honour

FUND-raiser Brian McDonald has been rewarded for his tireless efforts to help local charities.

Brian, pictured, who works in Marketing Support at Head Office, has received a Community Award from the Mayor of Ellesmere Port and Neston in recognition of his "valuable voluntary service".

Brian and his friend Paul Mattison, who also received a certificate, were leading lights in forming the Manweb Charity Team, a group of entertainers dedicated to putting a smile on the faces of sick and disabled people.

The team, which has so far raised £6,000 for various children's charities and a further £7,000 for Ellesmere Port Hospital, travels far and wide to perform its variety show.

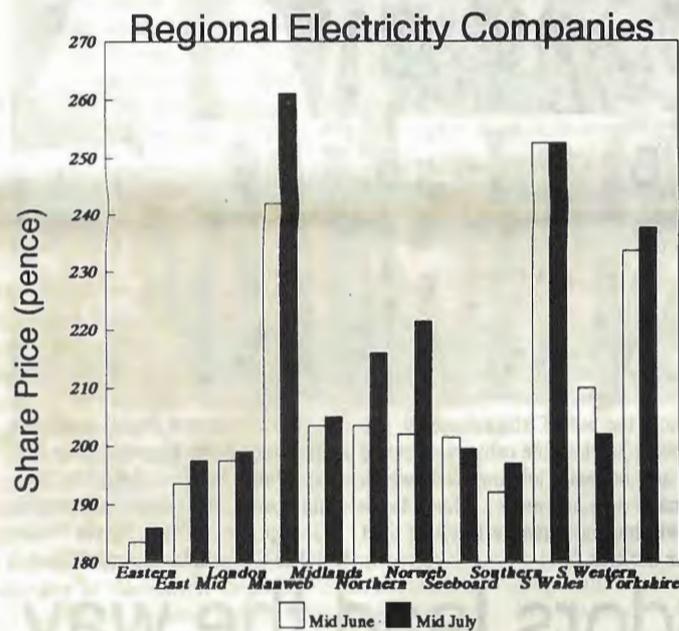
Brian, former Manager of Ellesmere Port Shop, said: "It all started about 18 months ago, when we held a charity fun day in the shop. I must have caught the fund-raising bug!"



Nappy news

CONGRATULATIONS to Claire Marchesi and her husband John on the birth of their daughter Francesca on May 27, 1991.

Claire worked within the Network Services Clerical Unit at Dee Valley District. Baby Francesca's weight at birth was 8lbs 3oz.



Taking stock

by
Graham Morris



CONTINUING his series of articles, Manweb's Accounting Manager Graham Morris looks at more aspects of stocks and shares. This month he starts with the dividends announced recently by all the RECs in their recent results announcements for the last financial year.

The announcements were spread over the month, with East Midlands on June 19 through to Manweb and South Wales on July 10. The comparisons of share price and gross yields therefore refer to a position before and after the 'actual' results were made public.

How much will you get in dividends?

Well, that obviously depends on how many shares you have in which company. All the RECs, apart from South Wales, are sticking with the dividend per share they declared in the prospectus, which was around 10p - 12p for every share. So, for example, if you paid £500 as the first instalment on 500 shares (there are another two instalments to pay), you should expect about £50 - £60 (after tax), depending on which REC you bought shares in, payable in October.

The distribution companies

Shares of the RECs rose by 2.4 per cent over the period, with South Wales, Manweb and Yorkshire still the three highest, although Manweb has (once again) taken over the 'top spot' from South Wales. Norweb showed the highest rise over the period (up 19 1/2p) with Manweb showing the second highest increase (up 19p).

	19th June	19th July	Gross Yield %
Scottish Hydro-Elec	116p	112 1/2	4.8%
Scottish Power	110 1/2	104p	5.0%

The generating companies

By mid-July the two generating companies, National Power and PowerGen, had risen to 148 1/2p and 150 1/2p from 141 1/2p and 147 1/2p in the middle of June, with gross yields of both at 4.9 per cent. Price/Earnings ratios for the two companies have also remained below the package, at 9.7 and 9.3 times.

The Scottish companies

Prices had fallen again over the month, with gross yields now in line with those of the generators. Relative to the Financial Times All Share Index, these yields still appear low, ranging from 90 per cent of the FT All Share Index for Hydro-Electric, through 92 per cent for the generators to 94 per cent for Scottish Power. These

compare with a yield relative for the package of RECS of 107 per cent in mid July.

Gross Yields

Dividend yields have fallen again in the early part of July, with a spread of 5.3 per cent up to 6.1 per cent. The yield on the package of all RECs' shares, however, has remained at around 5.8 per cent. Manweb remains one of the lower yields at 5.3 per cent, along with South Wales and Yorkshire (both 5.4 per cent). This compares with an FT All Share Index that rose considerably to 5.4 per cent from 4.8 per cent.

If you have any further queries on these matters you should take independent advice. Your solicitor, professional advisor, bank or building society will probably be best placed to help you.

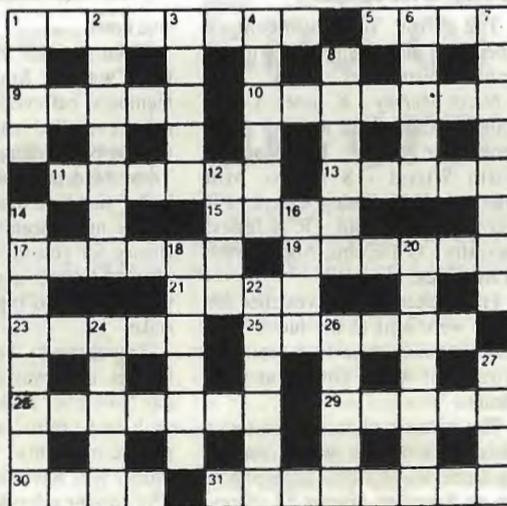
Crossword no. 35

Across

- Strong reaction from a reverse stripe (8), 5. Record one first-class story (4), 9. Sound of something dropped in error (5), 10. Vital credit offered the wretched Lucia (7), 11. Set to change twice and fly (6), 13. One may not be wanted on this level (5), 15. Paid less - part not working (4), 17. Got rid of Sue and Dot unfortunately (6), 19. Rotter in time turning round to cover shopping (6), 21. Beat half the side off - quite an achievement! (4), 23. Hit out at the centre left as being criminal (5), 25. Holding railwaymen when in a position to drive off (6), 28. Get Al to leave one country for another (7), 29. Strange talk of getting nothing back before you move (5), 30. Certainly not in action (4), 31. Superficial need to dance and jump around (4-4).

Down

- It stops where someone can take responsibility (4), 2. Prince and his sibling cut short as a matter of form (7), 3. Easily picked up in good visibility (5), 4. Don't quite dismiss the left-wing divine (6), 6. Greatly value sleep in ripe decay (5), 7. They may be without socks, one's afraid (4), 8. Someone on board to deal with passengers and money, right? (6), 12. Pride of the team (4), 14. Stiff message that the job will be awarded on character (8), 16. Dead careless about time (4), 18. It may have to be made to



get something done (6), 20. Hurried into new gear to get organised (7), 22. Have a go at an oblique course (6), 24. Children in dispute? (5), 26. New York and London shortages may be material (5), 27. Ring in a dance band (4).

Solution on page 3

	Mid June			Mid July			
	Share Price (p)	Price/Earnings Ratio	Gross Yield %	Share Price (p)	Increase %	Price/Earnings Ratio	Gross Yield %
Package	2,053	11.6	5.8	2,102.5	2.4%	11.7	5.8
FT All Sh	1,209		4.8	1,214.6	0.5%		5.4

Why linger in low paid job?

Dear Editor

As a reader of Contact, I see you state that the rises of 181 per cent and 57 per cent to Mr Bryan Weston and Mr John Roberts were justified. They were subjected to pay restraint for over 15 years and had been paid less than staff they control.

If they had the ability and brains and capability, why did they not join private enterprise?

Why did they linger, as you say, in a low-paid job?

I hope you print this letter in Contact - which I doubt you will.

I served 30 years in Manweb Lister Drive and am in receipt of a pension. Excuse my writing, I am 75 years of age.

Mr C Roberts
Hampstead Road
Liverpool.

Collect call

Dear Editor

I am a partially disabled deputy headteacher and totally nutty telephone card collector! I wonder if you would be kind enough to let it be known through your newspaper that I am seeking LANDIS & GYR DFS TECHNOLOGY SOLID STATE METERING phonecards. These phonecards were distributed to employees of the electricity industry.

I am willing to pay a 3-figure sum for a 40-units cards, used or unused, and am also interested in obtaining 10-units cards.

Alan Cullen
3 Trinity Road
Billericay
Essex
CM11 2RT.



Drop us a line

DO you have a view you'd like to share or an opinion you'd like to air? Then why not drop us a line?

Write to: The Editor, Contact, Room 5E1, Manweb plc, Sealand Road, Chester, CH1 4LR, and make sure you include your name and address, or work location. All letters are dealt with in strict confidence and your name can, upon request, be withheld.

Moved to write

Dear Editor

I have never before been moved to write to any magazine or newspaper, but having read the letter from J B Davies of Whitby in the July 1991 edition of Contact, I feel I really must reply.

Mr Davies lists what he terms 'FACTS' to support his theory that smoking is not detrimental to health. We can all relate facts as to the pros and cons of smoking.

I could, for instance, cite the death of my father aged 53 and his brother aged 39. They both passed away in the early 1960s and both of them were heavy smokers who started to smoke (as did Mr Davies) whilst in their very early teens.

They were both also very good footballers who cycled back and forth to work (five miles a day). They both died of lung cancer, which was caused

by smoking.

So come on, Mr Davies. Are you really saying that smoking and, more importantly, passive smoking is not harmful? If so, that is like saying you can drink and drive and as long as you don't have - or cause - an accident, that's ok.

If that is the case, I am afraid you are mistaken. I feel that smoking is foolish and dangerous, but it is obviously up to the individual.

What I do object to, though, is being subjected to passive smoking. I have no wish to suffer from lung cancer, a fact that is borne out by medical opinion. Remember, the Ministry of Health warning on all cigarette packets states: SMOKING KILLS.

Phil Jones Storekeeper
Rhostyllen Stores Dee Valley

Facing the future with confidence

"This is very important to the City," he said. "They want to know that we can accurately predict the financial performance of the business....our outcome is very close to forecasts."

Mr Roberts said that Manweb's pre-tax profit was 12.3% ahead of Prospectus forecasts. This was higher than expected due to better cost control, increased domestic and commercial electricity sales and lower than anticipated prices for electricity.

"It is very important that we balance the needs of the customers and the needs of the shareholders so that both groups benefit from us running the company effectively," said Mr Roberts.

At 11.2 pence Manweb's dividend was already second highest, and if approved by shareholders at the AGM it would be paid on October 9 to shareholders on the register at August 1.

Manweb's earnings per share - the profit after tax divided by the number of shares - was 36.7 pence, in line with expectations. The figure was important as it showed the growth of the company's profitability, and should increase every year.

At 36.7 pence Manweb was the third lowest of all electricity companies. However, after the costs of the VSS scheme were deducted it improved to the second highest.

Mr Roberts went on to quote an electricity industry analyst who placed Manweb as financially one of the strongest RECs.

Total Capital Expenditure on the year was £68 million. The Prospectus figure of £71 million

was not met, as much of the planned network reinforcement work was deferred, the recession causing customers to put off their own expansion plans. Reuse of existing plant also helped control costs.

The overall increase in units distributed was 1.3% at 17,500 GWh.

Mr Roberts stressed that even though some over 1MW customers had been lost in terms of supply, they still remained customers with regard to use of system, where most of Manweb's profit was made. The effect of losing this supply business was therefore minimal.

The year had seen over £47 million invested in the distribution system, with around 13,000 new connections for customers. Plans were approved to invest over £8 million to meet future demand, including connections for Toyota's engine plant at Dee-side and a number of business parks.

As well as refurbishment and reinforcement, a new computer based management information system was being put in place and a new purchasing and stock control system were currently being evaluated to help reduce working capital.

Moving on to other areas Mr Roberts touched on the pros and cons of joint initiatives with water companies.

He said: "Whilst we do not believe that such joint ventures necessitate share-swapping, we think there may be some merits in working with water companies operating in our area, on activities like meter reading and mains-laying projects. We have dis-

cussed these with the water companies who share our territory and we have agreed to some pilot projects to see what benefits are available."

Moving on to the supply business, Mr Roberts stressed the business objective of managing successfully the risk of a high turnover, low margin business with high working capital requirements.

Manweb's strategy was therefore to buy electricity on the best possible terms, minimising exposure to supply price variations and competing only for profitable supply contracts.

Volatile

To reduce exposure to the highly volatile pool price for purchasing electricity Manweb had entered into a number of contracts with generators, which had been highly effective in stabilising purchase costs. Exposure to likely increases in the pool price load management package, Aura, had made a good start, with take up by customers - including ICI - encouraging.

The Appliance Retailing and Contracting businesses had carried the significant cost of restructuring and installing a new computer. After these were accounted for the businesses made a loss of £1 million.

For retailing 1990/91 had been a difficult year, and a recovery plan had now been put in place, paying particular attention to strengthening margins and reducing overall costs.

"We intend to take full advantage of our large market share," said Mr Roberts. "We are market leaders in the region in white

said Mr Roberts. "We are market leaders in the region in white goods, with 25.6 per cent of the market share. Our market share in both brown and white goods is increasing and changes in product mix are continuing to improve profitability."

For Contracting there was an increase in sales of 22 per cent to £17 million. But in the second half of the year margins were squeezed as business activity declined. The streamlining of the operation on a regional basis and the targeting of industrial and commercial niche markets were addressing this. With the full cost of restructuring borne last year the benefits would be seen this year.

Mr Weston then underlined Manweb's commitment to maintaining its lead, and said the company's success was due to driving the business hard and keeping costs under control. The VSS scheme had been a vital part of this, and would not have been possible without the staff's support.

"I intend to ensure that in the future there will be no better company that you will want to work for," said Mr Weston. "We are already looking at better training programmes, at ways we can help you do your job better, at better working environments - and it won't stop there. We are all the most important asset this company has. It makes sense that if we can do our jobs better then that helps us to provide a better service to our customers."

The Chairman touched on what other companies were doing - seemingly exciting pro-

Grasp the 'weed'

Dear Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Jim Davies on his excellent achievements during his youthful years and his propensity for maintaining his fitness well into his sixties. Whether his longevity is due to smoking since the age of 10 or to good fortune that is for your readers (Contact, July edition) to decide.

However, I must take issue over certain statements he made in his letter. To interpret the dangers associated with cigarette smoking as scaremongering is, to say the least, being economical with the truth. The evidence against smoking is well documented.

As early as 1912, Alfred Adler, a renowned Australian physician, first identified cigarette smoking as a cause of

lung cancer. Again in 1951, Professor Sir Richard Doll investigated the smoking habits of 35,000 British doctors during a 15 year period. Of those who gave up smoking, he recorded a fall in lung cancer of 38 per cent.

The evidence of lung cancer within the general public during the same period had actually increased by seven per cent. Conclusion: it's never too late to give up smoking.

The facts concerning 'passive' smoking by non-smokers are more revealing. A 14-year study of 265,000 Japanese men and women concluded that a husband who smoked 2 cigarettes a day increased a non-smoking wife's risk of dying of lung cancer by more than 10 per cent.

It has been estimated that if cigarette smoking was drastically reduced, the number of lung cancers in England and Wales would fall by at least 8 per cent or 26,000 lives saved each year.

Another misnomer in Jim Davies' article was his assertion that 40 per cent of all cancer are caused by the fumes of motorised transport. He failed to mention the fact that this assumption was based on a survey involving London dispatch riders, working in high-density traffic in central London. The carbon monoxide levels in their blood equalled the carbon monoxide levels equivalent to smoking 30 cigarettes a day.

The moral here should read two wrongs do not make a right.

I agree with his assertion that medical opinion does NOT say that smoking is detrimental to one's health. What it does say on all cigarette advertisements is "SMOKING KILLS".

Speaking as a non-smoker, am not really concerned about the health of compulsive smokers. If they wish to harm themselves, so be it. What does concern me is that young people in particular should not be deluded into believing that smoking can only be harmful if carried to excess.

Many smokers have great difficulty in giving up the habit. The most effective way of becoming a non-smoker is by not starting in the first place. This is why I and many other employees in Manweb feel it about time that the nettle (the weed) was grasped and action taken to prohibit smoking on Manweb premises in the interests of health, safety and, dare I say it, aesthetics.

T Donnelly
North Wirral District

PS The average lifespan of a London dispatch rider, male and female, is 35 years!

Homing in on hazards

by Jackie Unsworth



North Mersey Office Manager Len Cornah adds the finishing touches to the art exhibition provided by Thomas Gray Junior School, Bootle.

DANGERS that may be lurking in the home and at work were in everyone's mind when North Mersey District held a safety awareness week for staff.

Covering various topics, the event was masterminded by the District health and safety representatives, who organised spot-the-hazard displays, first aid demonstrations, videos, quizzes and competitions.

Building Foreman Bert Miller and his team sectioned off part of the canteen and created three hazard-filled walk-in areas - domestic, workshop and office scenes - and staff were invited to spot the dangers.

Eagle-eyed Storekeeper Gill Thompson landed a £10 prize for identifying 69 hazards, and four runners-up - Alec Lloyd (Fitting Department), Don Burleigh (Service), John Kerwin (Debt Control) and Keith Gore (Fitting) - each won a smoke alarm.

Office Manager Len Cornah enlisted the help of pupils from St George of England High School, Bootle, to prepare the displays, and youngsters from nearby Thomas Gray Junior School provided an exhibition of paintings and drawings on the safety theme, which was set up in the reception area at Bridle Road.

There was also a demonstration of fire-fighting, and staff had the chance to tackle a blaze using fire extinguishers.

The winner of the safety quiz was Customer Accounts Clerk Veronica Davies, who netted a £10 prize.

Safety Representative Lisa

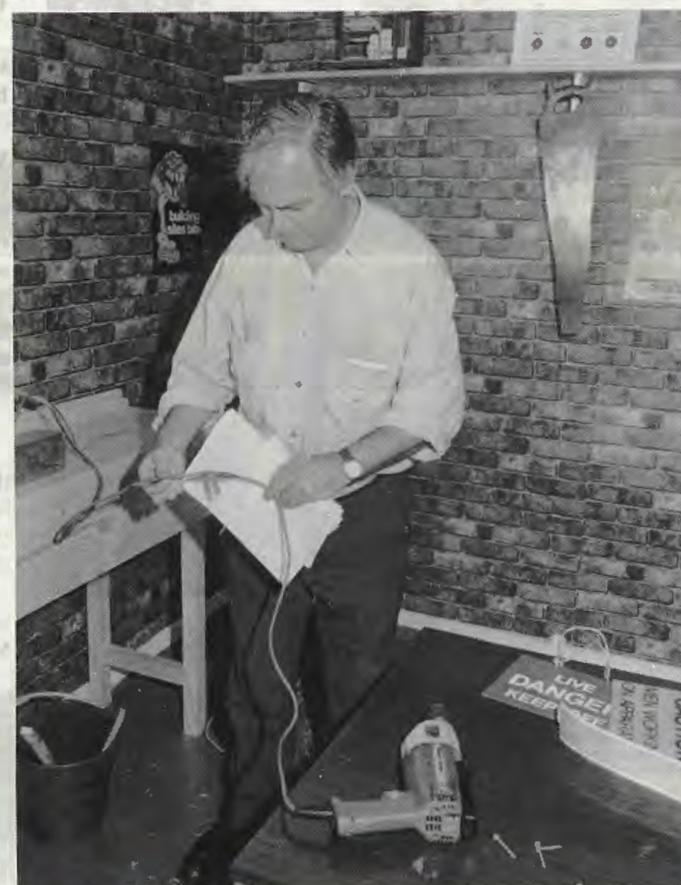


Healy said: "We formed a small committee to organise this event after District Manager David Price said he wanted his staff to be more safety conscious.

"We arranged various events throughout the week in the hope that as many staff as possible would take part, and it was a great success.

"The spot-the-hazard domestic, workshop and office scenes created by Bert Miller and his staff were particularly good, and these will now be available for any other district wishing to hold a similar event."

Right: Engineering Clerical Assistant Kathy Turner tackles a blaze with guidance from fire control expert Mike Buttery. Below: Right: George Harrison, of Fitting, checks out the hazards in the workshop scene. Below: Searching for dangers in the domestic display are Shift Service Electricians Don Burleigh (left) and George Matthews (kneeling), and Kevin Murrow, of Appliance Delivery.



Farmers plug in to safe working

MANWEB is backing a major safety initiative aimed at improving the standard of electrical installations on farms in Wales.

The Health and Safety Executive's Agricultural Inspectorate has joined forces with Manweb, South Wales Electricity and the farming unions to sponsor the campaign.

Carl Boswell, the HSE's Chief Agricultural Inspector, said the pattern of accidents and evidence from inspectors' visits showed a deteriorating standard of electrical safety on Welsh farms. In the past five years 13 serious accidents had been investigated - three of which had proved fatal.

"The introduction of the recent Electricity at Work Regulations has focused attention on the need for better standards of installation and maintenance, although nothing is required by the Regulations which is not already the norm in the best undertakings," said Mr Boswell.

"Over 100 Enforcement Notices served under the new Regulations showed that the standard of electrical installations on Welsh farms is low and deteriorating.

"The objective of the campaign is to make farmers, their employees and their families aware of the dangers they face when working with electrical systems that are in a poor state of repair.

"The majority of the Regulations are directed at hardware requirements and installations which are required to be of proper construction, properly installed and maintained."

He added: "Regular electrical inspections should be a feature of every farmer's preventive maintenance programme, but the inspection and testing of fixed installations is a job for the expert. A simple visual check is never enough. It might highlight chafed wiring or broken sockets, but will not reveal poor earthing or internal damage to dust and damp proof equipment.

"The HSE, therefore, welcomes the input of its co-sponsors in the campaign - Manweb and South Wales Electricity - who are able to offer a discounted inspection service, together with the support of the National Farmers' Union and Farmers' Union of Wales. Additional valuable support is being given by the Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Agricultural Training Board."

Manweb Chairman Bryan Weston said: "We are very pleased to support the launch of this campaign aimed at improving electrical safety on farms.

"I sincerely hope the campaign will

create a greater safety awareness amongst farmers, their families and their workers and as a consequence the number of needless electricity-related accidents will be reduced."

To encourage farmers to have their electrical wiring systems inspected for compliance with the IEE Wiring Regulations, and to have any defects checked, Manweb and South Wales Electricity have agreed a discounted price structure in Wales for 'safety inspections' of farm premises.

This offer, launched at The Royal Welsh Show, will run until April 1992 and allows farmers to have 3,000 sq ft of their farm buildings, including the farmhouse, to be inspected for £30 plus VAT and £25 plus VAT for each subsequent 3,000 sq ft - significantly below cost price.

First to sign up for the discounted inspection was farmer Alan Lewis, an official of the Farmers' Union of Wales.

On show on the Health and Safety Executive stand was a new video on electrical safety on farms. The video highlights the hazards associated with equipment on farmland coming into contact with overhead lines.





Above: Female Solo Singing winner Mrs Gwyneth Jerman with her winner's salver.

Below: Compere Glan Davies with the oldest person to take part in the Eisteddfod, Mrs Beatrix Goodwin, 92, from Caernarfon. She did not take part in the final, but sang in her local heat, and came to Aberystwyth to support friends!



Young at heart

Age no barrier in Eisteddfod for elderly folk

Report by Graeme Cooper
Pictures by Mike Hall

AGE was no barrier to competitors in the final of the Manweb/South Wales Electricity-sponsored Age Concern Eisteddfod at Aberystwyth University.

The event was the first of its kind, aimed specifically at senior citizens, and was also notable for being the first bilingual Eisteddfod.

Spectators from all over Wales packed the university's Great Hall to see competitors taking part in contests ranging from singing to handicrafts and literature.

Welsh TV star Glan Davies lent a hand, helping compere the marathon day-long event.

Chair

The overall competition for the Bardic Chair was won by Edward Jones, from Benllech on Anglesey, with a poem on ageing.

Other winners were from both North and South Wales, with Manweb well represented.

The female solo singing contest was won by Gwyneth Jerman from Llanidloes, Emrys Jones from Corwen was winner of the male solo singing and the piano solo contest was won by Michael James Borth from Aberystwyth.

In the literary entries Alun Roberts of Colwyn Bay won first place in the Letter to the Prime Minister category, R G Jones of Corwen was voted top in the Greeting Card Verse entries, Jean Skidmore from Aberdyfi won with her Ten Modern Commandments and M G Williams from Caernarfon won top place with a Paper on Old Remedies.

Success

As well as first places Manweb's area scooped numerous runners up positions.



Harpist Carys Roberts of Bow Street near Aberystwyth, who provided accompaniment during the Eisteddfod.

Event Organiser Ed Morgan said: "We were delighted with the success of the Eisteddfod, which was a first for senior citizens in Wales.

"I'd like to thank both Manweb and South Wales Electricity for their support throughout the local preliminary contests as well as the final.

"I'm sure they will agree that we have succeeded in tapping a real vein of talent among our older people, both Welsh and English speaking."

Event is a 'first' for senior citizens in Wales



Above: Singing competitor Joan Davies on stage with compere Glan Davies.

Right: The charring of the bard, (l-r) Eisteddfod organiser Ed Morgan, Adjudicator Dic Jones, Bard Edward Jones, Manweb's Aberystwyth Energy Sales Manager Allen Carr and Age Concern's Mrs Gwyneth Niman.



Staff score a career 'goal'

SEVEN Liverpool District employees scored a 'goal' in their careers with Manweb when they visited Anfield, the home of Liverpool Football Club, to receive long service certificates from District Manager Bob McMahon.

The Lister Drive 'team' received their awards in the Club's Trophy Room. Pictured below (l-r) are: Transport Foreman Eric Lee (20 years' service), Meter Operative Joe Cotter (30 years), Bob McMahon, 2nd Engineer Network Services Ken Rigby,

Craftsman Electrical Inspection Jim Baldwin, Craft Attendant Jointing Eddie Burnett, Storekeeper Ron Thompson and General Duties Assistant Geoff Gray (all 30 years' service).

Four other long serving employees were unable to attend the

ceremony. Chargehand Meter Operative John Ashley, Meter Operative Ronald James Oliver, Craftsman Electrician Peter Shuttleworth and former Supplies Manager Haydn Evans (now based at Head Office) have each clocked up 30 years' service.



Ken says it with flowers

LONG service certificates were presented to nine Mid Cheshire staff who between them have clocked up 250 years' service.

Tributes were paid by District Manager Ken Crabtree, who presented the awards during a special ceremony and buffet at a local hotel. The staff, who were accompanied by their partners, also received bouquets or flower bulbs.

The recipients were:
40 years: Bob Waddilove, Chargehand Craftsman, Overhead Lines; Arthur Ashbrook, Craftsman, Overhead Lines (now retired).

30 years: Eric Shaw, Manager, Winsford Shop; Tony Williams, Installation Inspector;

Malcolm Latham, Foreman, Network Services.

20 years: Phillip Hough, Storekeeper; Pat Benoy, Part-time Sales Assistant, Crewe Shop; Malcolm Bebbington, Energy Marketing Assistant; Barry Harding, Craftsman Electrician (now retired).

Three other long serving employees, unable to attend the presentation, were Tom Aspinall, Craftsman Electrician (40 years); Shift Electrician John Harrison (30 years), and Geoff Taylor, Craftsman Overhead Lines (30 years).



Mid Mersey's milestone

MID Mersey staff who have reached special milestones in their careers celebrated their long service at a Warrington hotel.

District Manager Des Lock is pictured (front centre) presenting the awards to his staff, many of whom brought along their partners to the Rockfield Hotel, Grappenhall, for the special occasion.

The long-serving Mid Mersey employees are as follows:

20 years: Marion Hughes, Shop Assistant; Les Whitfield, Statutory Electrician; Jean Peel, Shop Assistant; Barbara Hanrahan, Shop Assistant; Tom

Stott, Meter Reader.

30 years: Ron Garvey, Joiner; Lewis Carter, 1st Engineer, Commercial; Alan Brown, Meter Reader; Roy Bennett, Meter Reader; Colin Arnold, 1st Engineer, Commercial.

40 years: Gordon Duffy, Joiner's Mate; Margaret Ward, PAG1, Accounts; Vincent Flanagan, 2nd Engineer, Network Services; Dave Cousins, Contracting Manager, Eastern Region.

Long service celebrations

Ticket to Rheidol

THE hydro-electric power station at Rheidol was the venue for a recent outing by members of the Dee Valley Retired Staff Association.

After a tour of the site, the group was treated to lunch at Aberystwyth District Office, before spending the rest of the day in the nearby town.

The next trip planned is to Southport Flower Show this month, while the next monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday September 18, at 2.30pm in the canteen at Rhostyllen.

Golden years

WORKING in the electricity industry sparked off a life-long romance for Cledwyn and Verta Hughes (pictured).

And, 50 years on, the Sandbach couple recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Cledwyn, 78, met 77-year-old Verta when he was transferred from the old electricity board in Wales to work in Nantwich, where his wife-to-be was employed.

More recently Cledwyn was in charge of the service department at Mid Cheshire District, before

Retirement round-up



retiring in 1976.

Verta said: "I worked for the electricity board during the war and my husband served for 37 years."

She added that the secret to a

long, happy marriage is simply "sticking together".

The couple have four children, seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren. (Picture courtesy of the Crewe Chronicle).



Booster for hospital's scanner fund

MID-Cheshire District has helped the Leighton Hospital Scanner Appeal Shop with a gift of electric storage heaters.

The heaters were presented to Appeal Organiser Mrs Jean Morris by Manweb Energy Marketing Engineer Phil Youell at the shop's official opening by BBC TV North

West presenter Nigel Jay.

Run by Crewe and District Mastectomy Support Group, the shop will help the group achieve its goal of buying and maintaining a body scan-

ner for Leighton Hospital. To date the appeal has raised £253,000.

Pictured during the opening are (l-r) Phil Youell, Nigel Jay and Jean Morris.

Sign up and enter the

THE EEIBA Prize Draw Club has launched a recruitment drive - with special cash awards at stake! Any employee who signs up before December 31 1991 will have their name entered into a special draw with a top first prize of £150. There will also be two runner-up prizes of £50 and £25.

Current members can also take part in the draw by 'buying' an additional number.

The Prize Draw Club raises funds for the EEIBA whilst at the same time provides its members with the opportunity to win cash prizes in the monthly draw. Members subscribe a minimum £1 per month (or 23p per week) by direct deduction from their salary. This entitles them to one number in the monthly draw.

The present membership stands at 2,500 and £1,250 is paid out each month, divided among 20 winners.

EEIBA Secretary Jim Wilcock said: "The top prize currently stands at £300, but as membership increases so does the prize money and the amount we are able to donate to the EEIBA charity."

The EEIBA is the only charity specifically caring for eligible employees, ex-staff and/or their dependents, within the electrical and electronics industries. It provides counselling, financial aid and various other assistance.

Application forms to join the Prize Draw Club are being sent out to all Manweb employees, but if you don't receive one, contact Jim Wilcock in the Welfare Section, Room 5E1, Head Office.

* **The winner of the £300 top prize in the EEIBA's March draw was J M Dunlop, of North Wirral District, with the lucky number 1119.**

The other winners were as follows: £200 - K Williamson, Head Office (1154); £150 - D Rushton, North Wirral (2423); £100 - T B Jones, Dee Valley (489); £75 - G Edwards, retired (69) and G Roberts, Head Office (394); £30 - J Cunnah, Clwyd (2730), A Davies, retired (712) and L Morris, retired (1986); £25 - C Davies, Head Office (1123), V. Stock, Dee Valley (556), B Jones, retired (1351), S H

Quayle, Liverpool (1218), E D Price, retired (1585), C A Swift, Mid Mersey (644), R P Stephens, Dee Valley (767), P A Piercy, Head Office (302), C I Holmes, North Wirral (66), T Brookshaw, Head Office (1051) and D Carter, Mid Mersey (650).

The April draw winners were: £300 - E Jones, Dee Valley (2591); £200 - L Price, Oswestry (674); £150 - T J Morris, Clwyd (234); £100 - D Molloy, Dee Valley (2478); £75 - C Robinson, North Mersey (992); £50 - E A Jones, Clwyd (1152); £30 - K Griffiths, retired (1055), S A Holding, GEC Switchgear (761), D A Jones, retired (1437), M E Bates, Dee Valley (2595) and G R Halliday, retired (1859); £25 - J Lee, retired (651), C A Williams, Head Office (611), A Davison, retired (51), A L Carman, retired (144), J B Shanahan, Banson Electric Company (750), C Maxon, retired (1581), L V Taylor, retired (2186), N F Brandon, retired (2009) and M W Goldon, Head Office (849).

The May draw winners were: £300 - B Griffiths, Dee Valley; £200 - N Jones, Head Office (463); £150 - R L V Casey, Head Office (984); £100 - J Ryan, Head Office (337); £75 - D Rushton, North Wirral (2423); £50 - R D Owens, Liverpool (1189); £30 - W Williams, retired (2314), P J Humphray, North Mersey (2465), M W Jones, retired (1874), B M Millington, retired (591) and D C Birchall, retired (2208); £25 - D Jackson, Head Office (550), D Farquhar, Head Office (1056), D W Leighton Jones, retired (2715), P T Lewis, retired (120), K A Walker, Head Office (879), A Roberts, retired (1812), C D Heggie, Head Office (592), W Ball, retired (1589) and C F Edwards, Head Office (1108).

super prize draw



NOTICE LIVERPOOL DISTRICT'S ANNUAL MEETING OF EMPLOYEES

To be held on Thursday, 24th October, 1991
at The Crest Hotel (Aintree Suite)
Lord Nelson Street Liverpool L3 5UQ

Starting at 6.15pm

Guest speaker: Mr J E Roberts, Manweb plc
Managing Director

"The Future of the Company and
Liverpool District"

Admission by ticket only, available from
LJCC Secretary C H Edwards,
General Services Section,
Lister Drive, Liverpool.

Salad days!

MAKE a meal of salad. Don't treat it as an accompaniment to a main dish. Salads can be filling meals in themselves.

SUMMER TROUT SALAD (serves 4)

3 x 12oz (350g) rainbow trout, cleaned; 1/2 pint (300ml) dry white wine; 2 bay leaves; 6 black peppercorns; 1 tsp salt; juice of 1/2 lemon.

For the salad: 1lb (450g) new potatoes, scraped; 1 small head curly endive; 8oz (225g) cherry tomatoes; 1 bunch chives, snipped. For the dressing: 2tbsp single cream; 4tbsp toasted chopped hazlenuts; 8oz (225g) Greek strained yogurt; salt and black pepper.

Rinse the trout thoroughly under cold running water. Leave the heads and tails intact and place the trout in a wide shallow pan or fish kettle. Add the dry white wine, bay leaves, black peppercorns, salt, lemon juice and enough cold water to cover the fish.

Bring the liquid slowly to the boil then lower the heat. Cover and simmer very gently for 10 minutes. Remove from the heat and leave the trout to cool in the poaching liquid.

Remove the trout from the pan, cut off and discard the heads and tails. Remove the skin, ease the flesh away from the bones and break into larger flakes.

Cook the new potatoes in boiling salted water for 20 minutes until tender. Drain, refresh under cold water, then drain thoroughly.

In a large salad bowl, mix together the curly endive, new potatoes, cherry tomatoes and flaked trout, then sprinkle with snipped chives.

For the dressing, stir the single cream and toasted chopped hazlenuts into the yogurt then season. Spoon the dressing over the salad just before serving.

TANDOORI CHICKEN SALAD (serves 4)

12oz (350g) long grain rice; salt; 6tbsp vegetable or olive oil; 2tbsp lemon juice; 2tsp concentrated tandoori paste; 3tbsp Bengai hot mango chutney; 1/2 tsp sugar; freshly ground black pepper; 12oz (350g) cooked chicken, cut into thin strips; 4oz (125g) sultanas; 3oz (75g) dried apricots, halved; 1 banana, sliced; lemon wedges; sprig of flat leaf parsley.

COOKING



by Marj Scregg

Bring a large pan of salted water to the boil. Place the rice in a sieve and rinse thoroughly. Add to the pan, lower the heat and boil for 10 minutes. Tip the rice into the sieve and rinse under cold water. Drain thoroughly. Transfer the rice to a large bowl.

Measure the oil, lemon juice, tandoori paste, mango chutney and sugar into a screw top jar. Secure the lid and shake well to mix. Pour the dressing over the rice, mix well then season with salt and ground black pepper to taste.

Add the chicken, sultanas, dried apricots and sliced banana to the rice. Transfer to a large platter and garnish with lemon and parsley.

PASTA CRUNCH SALAD WITH RED PEPPER DRESSING (serves 4)

12oz (350g) pasta bows; salt; 1 green pepper, seeded and sliced; 1 yellow pepper, seeded and sliced; 1 courgette, trimmed and cut into thin sticks; 1 small cauliflower, trimmed into tiny florets; 6oz (175g) Cheddar cheese cut into thin sticks; 4oz (125g) piece salami, peeled and cut into thin sticks.

For the dressing: 2 red peppers, cut into quarters and seeded; 1/2 small onion, chopped; 3oz (75g) packet Philadelphia cheese; 5tbsp single cream; 1/2 tsp lemon juice; 1/4 tsp mild chilli powder; salt and freshly ground black pepper; freshly chopped parsley to garnish.

Bring a large pan of salted water to the boil. Add the pasta bows, then cover and boil for 10 minutes or until just soft. Drain and refresh under cold running water. Drain again then transfer to a large salad bowl. Coat with olive oil and fold in the sliced peppers, courgette sticks, cauliflower florets, cheese and salami sticks.

To make the red pepper dressing, place the pieces of red pepper skin side up on a grill pan. Cook under a very hot grill until the skins blacken and char, then leave until cold.

Peel away the skins then roughly chop the flesh. Blend red peppers and onion in a processor until fine. Add the cheese, cream, lemon, chilli powder, salt and ground black pepper and blend until smooth. Spoon the dressing over the salad and garnish with fresh chopped parsley.

Food for thought

A trip around the refurbished Head Office servery was one of the highlights of the Catering Teachers' Association meeting at Manweb's Head Office.

The company hosts the association's North West Region meeting every other year, and the teachers were delighted to have the chance to look around a 'state of the art' catering facility.

Speakers at the event included Sous Chef Managing Director Richard Sperring, who gave the teachers an insight into the processes food undergoes before it reaches the caterer.

Also speaking were Geoff Wenman from catering equipment manufacturer Moorwood Vulcan, who dealt with research and development, and Manweb Energy Marketing Engineer Judith McIntyre, speaking on the importance and value of energy in catering.

A special guest was Manweb's area representative in the Catering National Final, Helen Roberts, a student at NEWI College.

Pictured in the Head Office servery are (l-r) CTA NW Branch Chairman Bill Buckley, Branch Secretary Audrey Beardsell, Richard Sperring, Helen Roberts, CTA National Chairperson Neil Barker and Judith McIntyre.

FOR SALE

6 NEW
WEDDING DRESSES

SIZES 12 & 14

DIFFERENT STYLES

£60 OR NEAREST OFFER EACH

2 BRIDESMAIDS DRESSES
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£100 FOR THE 2

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OR INTERNAL
MAUREEN 2042

FREE ADS

HOLIDAYS

Caravan - Towyn, near Rhyl, six berth, two bedrooms, shower, fridge, fully fitted. From £75 per week. Tel: 0978 362615/352653.

Costa Del Sol - Benalmadena studio apartment, suitable for two or three people. Excellent pool and facilities. Shops and bars with entertainment nearby, 10 minute walk to beach. As advertised in Global and Sol holiday brochures. Tel: Joe Flanagan on 0244 41097.

Criccieth - North Wales, house overlooking village green. Sleeps six, CT.V. Beach and shops two mins. Tel: 0766 522 614 (Ann Tudor).

France - B&B, H/B, caravans and camping. Tarnet Garrone region Close to junction 8 and 9 on Autoroute between Bordeaux and Toulouse. Excellent catering including French, Indian and vegetarian cooking. Much to see and do, or just relax in sunshine. ExSEB employee. Tel: David Boniface, 010-33 (63-95-95-20).

Pony Trekking - and farm holidays. Accompanied one hour to full-day treks for novices or experienced riders. Holiday cottages available. Self-catering, bed and breakfast or half board. Licenced restaurant open to non-residents. Lunch, afternoon tea, dinner. Private parties catered for. Further details: Hwylfa Ddafydd Country Farm Holidays, tel. Colwyn Bay 516965.

Port Grimaud - Six miles St Tropez. Four/six berth caravans with electricity, hot and cold water, shower, on three star hotel site. Luxury coach travel from most areas. Tel: 0670 712399.

Porthmadog - Holiday bungalow, sleeps six. Black Rock Sands five minutes' drive. Convenient Ffestiniog Railway, Snowdonia National Park. Contact C. Jones, 2 Meadow Drive, Porthmadog, tel. 0766 512519.

Algarve - Privately-owned villa set in large gardens in the Monchique Hills. Split level dining room, good kitchen facilities, utility room, two good-sized bedrooms, terraces with garden furniture. Panoramic views of the west coast 24 kms away. Swimming pool, maid service, food hamper provided. Flights arranged, tel: 0352 86709 or fax: 0492 540457.

Anglesey - Self catering and coarse fishing holidays. Two lakes on 15-acre site overlooking Snowdonia. Touring caravans and tents welcome. Brochure available, tel: 0248 713410.

Weston-super-Mare - Static caravan on farm. Six berth, separate double bedroom, shower, toilet, tv etc. All season price £70 per week. Tel: 0934 750 292.

Newquay - Cornwall, luxury caravans with shower, and economy vans. Colour tv, flush toilet etc. Pleasant site near town and beaches. Cleaned and maintained by owners. From £50 per week. Tel: 0637 876589 (Gill).

Spain - Luxury villa, three double bedrooms and two bathrooms. Private swimming pool. Quiet area "Calpe" Costa Blanca. Walled gardens, terraces etc. Five minutes from uncrowded beaches. Available from £150 per week. Tel: 0736 664177.

Dolgellau - Traditional farmhouse cottage set in a seven acre smallholding in Snowdonia National Park. Sleeps seven plus cot. Tastefully modernised, fully

fitted kitchen inc. dishwasher and microwave. Storage heaters and large inglenook fireplace. Ample parking and grounds. Kennel for pet by arrangement. Easy access to mountains and sea. Beautiful scenery and walks. Prices from £100 to £220 per week/ Tel: 0341 423912.

French Riviera - Six berth caravan, all amenities on site, within easy reach of Monaco, St Tropez etc. Golf and riding close by. SAE to M. Williams, The Lodge, Lingen, Bucknell, Shropshire, or tel: 0544 267579.

Newquay - Cornwall. Guest house, sea views, two minutes from beaches. Quiet area close to town, good food, comfort, parking. BB/EM £65 - £80 per week. ESI staff. Tel: 063787 4291 (Mr Pleasants).

Anglesey - Tal-y-Bont Cottages, Dwyran. Luxury cottages set in a 17-acre smallholding, 11/2 miles from shingle beach of Menai Straits and four miles from sandy beaches of Llanddwyn. Nature reserve, bird sanctuary, sea zoo, shops and restaurant nearby. Weekly prices - July/August £220, September 1 to 15 £180, September 16 to 30 £160, October £130. Tel: Deeside 819768.

Llandudno - Rosaire Private Hotel, family-run and situated in lovely garden area of town, yet close to all entertainment and shops with no hills to climb. Free car park. Tea/coffee facilities, some en-suite rooms available, excellent home cooking, served at separate tables. Tel: 0492 77677 or write for brochure to Mr and Mrs G. Evans, 2 St Seiriols Road, Llandudno, Gwynedd L130 2YY.

Anglesey - B&B/Self-catering summer let. Secluded farmhouse with panoramic views of the Snowdonia range. Within 10 minutes of the main town Llangefni and sandy beaches. Idyllic for bird watchers. Tel: Bodogan (0407) 840038.

Snowdon - Quiet valley, modern flat with all facilities. Sleeps four. Beautiful views, free fishing. Contact Mrs A. Bohannon on 0286 85537.

South of France - Six-berth caravan to let on site with all amenities. Easy reach of Monaco, Monte Carlo, St Tropez etc. Some dates July and August. Tel: 0544 267579 after 6pm. ESI staff only.

Snowdonia - National Park, comfortable modern flat, all facilities. Sleeps four. Beautiful quiet valley six miles from Caernarfon. Close to shop and pub. Free fishing. Tel: 0286 85537.

Caravan - New 31', 6/7-berth, all mains services. Gas, electricity and colour tv included. Sited on Haven's Ty Mawr Holiday Park near Abergele (Dragon Award). Free entertainments, heated indoor swimming pool, family club, disco, children's Tiger Club etc. Near all major resorts. Tel: Chester 372860 for details. Families only, sorry no pets. Discount for Manweb employees and families.

Toomargoed, Rhyl - Take that break you've been promising yourself. Relax in a family hotel and enjoy good home cooking and fully licensed bar. Weekly rates for B&B and evening meal, weekend or mid-week breaks. Ring Len or Sandy on 0745 334103 or 677 3003.

Sailing Holidays - Artemis. Comet's 850 (28ft) bareboat charter. Moody 37, bareboat or

skipped charter. Corfu-based. Tuition available. Full inventory. Contact H.J. Hargrove on 0270 67556.

South West France - Country-side guest house D'Astros le Pin, Auvillar, English hosts. Family, double or single rooms, B&B, half or full board. Water sports, swimming, golf, tennis and wine tasting nearby, open all year including Christmas. Special rates for ESI staff: 1. B&B prices for low season £11 per person (until March 31, 1991). 2. All confirmed bookings received before January 31, 1991 will benefit by the accommodation costs in peak season remaining at the 1989/90 price. Telephone David or Jenny Boniface on 010 33 63 95 95 20 or, for brochure only, 0428 723207.

Lanzarote - Playa Blanca, 1 Bed villa on small development with pool, bar, tennis court, luxury kitchen, lounge, private garden with BBQ. Available May and November. Tel. 051 336 8678.

Orlando - Florida. To let, luxury holiday home on Buenaventura Lakes Golf and Country Club (15 mins from Disneyworld). 3 beds, 2 bathrooms, will accommodate up to 8 persons. Private swimming pool. Use residents' golf club. Full management service on hand. For further details ring 051 625 8202.

Pembrokeshire - Country bungalow near beaches. Sleeps 5, pets welcome. Ring 0437 731375.

For Charter - Luxury 56ft steel ketch, Uisce Beatha. Join us for the holidays of a lifetime cruising the beautiful Hebrides and West Coast of Scotland. Visit the islands of Jura, Mull and Skye. Luxury crewed yacht for 6 guests. No experience necessary, skipper looks after you. Good food and company in a relaxed atmosphere. Also ideal for incentives/promotions for staff and clients. Brochure on request, including details of winter season in Canaries. Telephone: Melfort Charters on 051 207 4069.

Snowdonia - Bungalow near Harlech with wide sea view, 3 double bedrooms with bunk/playroom with 6 bunks. Ideal for 1 or 2 families. TV, garden and ample parking. Prices from £150 to £250 per week. Tel: 051 336 1709.

North Wales - six berth caravan to let, fully equipped, peaceful countryside, £10 per day. Tel: 049084 208.

Malta - Bugibba, 11th-25th May. Topaz Aparthotel (timeshare apartment), sleeps 4, excellent facilities, £200. Tel: 0744 35400.

Falaise - Normandy, 18th Century farmhouse, large gardens, tastefully restored. Near historic market town, sleeps 4-6, from £100pw. Tel. 0244 317820.

Pwllheli - North Wales, detached bungalow, sleeps 6. Superb views, fully equipped, inclusive of linen and electricity, convenient to all amenities. Tel. Pwllheli 612353.

Colwyn Bay - Swiss style Chalet, sleeps 6, electric heating. Bathroom, flush toilet, fridge, colour TV, garden and parking. Situated in Beautiful woodland dell near Eirias Park and beach. Weekly rates or weekend or mid-week breaks. Tel. 051 678 9854.

Caravan - Luxury 6-berth, Talacre Beach, nr Prestatyn. All amenities, satellite TV, award-winning site, club, sauna, swimming pool, tennis, bowls, horse-riding etc. Contact Sue Wilson on 051 531 8755 or int. ext. 710 2338.

Cumbria - Newly appointed cottage, ETB 4-key commended. Peacefully situated on small farm. Hadrian's Wall area. Sleeps four. Short breaks available, open all year. No pets. Tel. 0228 75650.

FOR SALE

Caravan - Six berth with balcony, inc. 1991 site fees at Greenacres Holiday Park, Portmadoc. Absolute bargain at £7,000. Contact Hazel Madden on 051-708 6514.

Gents Suits - At low prices. Top quality suits usually retailing at up to £234 in well known stores, now just £99. Also range of Italian designer suits from £199 (usually over £350). Shoes, trousers, aftershaves etc. 'Suits U', c/o L for Leather, Church Street, Liverpool (near Central Station/Bold Street, next door to Thomas Cook), tel. 051 707 1255. Tell Julian you are from Manweb and claim a further 10% discount.

Caravan - Ace Award Dawnstar. Luxury 2-berth, 1988 model with central heating, shower, electrics, hot water, beautiful oak interior. Hardly used. Excellent condition. £5,200 o.n.o. Contact Mr M O'Neill on 0270 768600/765503.

Camera - Canon AE1 Programme SLR, Canon 50mm lens, Carl Zeiss 35mm-70mm telephoto lens, flash, bag, filters etc. £175 o.n.o. Contact Alan Brown 0925 816788.

Lathe - Refurbishing project. Drummond flat bed lathe and cast stand (17" between centres), Cross slide and top slide (3 1/2" swing to bed). 4 1/4" 3 jaw chuck with internal and external jaws, 4 1/2" 4 jaw chuck, induction motor and pulley, including 3 pulley set, 5 3/4" and 4 3/4" faceplates, screw cutting gear wheel set, work steady, tools posts, miscellaneous tools, clamps etc. £125. Tel. North Wirral int. ext. 2200 or 0829 40186.

Sailing Dinghy - Merlin Rocket with Snipe roadtrailer, furling jibs, mainsail, spinnaker. Good condition and ready to sail. Bargain at £375. Contact Andy on 051 648 6175 (Pensby).

Gents Suits - At low prices. Top quality suits usually retailing at up to £234 in well known stores, now just £99. Also range of Italian designer suits from £199 (usually over £350). Shoes, trousers, aftershaves etc. 'Suits U', c/o L for Leather, Church Street, Liverpool (near Central Station/Bold Street, next door to Thomas Cook), tel. 051 707 1255. Tell Julian you are from Manweb and claim a further 10% discount.

PROPERTY

Halkyn - Detached stone cottage with outbuildings. Partly modernised. Three bedrooms, double garage, workshop. Quiet rural setting but within easy reach of A55 Expressway. £90,000 ono. Telephone 0352 781362.

Cyprus - Retirement/holiday modern bungalow, Chloraka Bay, Paphos. Two bedrooms, fitted kitchen, lounge/dining room, three patios, large built-in garage, magnificent sea views, community pool, small landscaped gardens, sea 600 yards, solar heating, 52 weeks' community 'rates' C£41 p.a., water C£18 p.a. Freehold deeds available. £59,500 o.n.o. Tel: 0745 888391.

Connahs Quay - Semi detached house. Lounge/diner, kitchen, 2-bedrooms, bathroom/wc with electric shower, off-peak storage heaters, gardens back and front with car parking space, £38,500. 17 Tecwyn Drive, Connahs Quay. Tel. 0244 821361.

CARS

Vauxhall Chevette - V-reg. MOT and tax till November '91. In good running order. New engine at 64,000 miles. £300. Contact W Rea on 051 638 2129.

PERSONAL

Wedding videos - high class professional videos at low prices. Three copies including graphics

and music. For further details contact Claire or Ian on 0978 855709 after 5 p.m.

Wedding Photography - Capture the informal pictures of bride, groom, guests, etc. that the official photographer misses. Let me be your 'back - up' photographer on the special day. 80 7.5" x 5" photos chosen from 100, £70. Contact Ken Smyth on HO int. ext. 3207 for details.

A&R Photographic - For your high quality wedding photographs and family portraits at highly competitive prices. Contact Ray Rowland on Chester (0244) 376369.

Photographer - Professional wedding and portrait. Let me create your wedding album, portfolios or portraits. Reasonable rates. Contact Mathew Harman on HO int. ext. 2777 or 0978 263 448.

Knitwear - Achilles designer originals. Exclusive made-to-measure handknits, crochet etc. Contact Eileen on 0942 679898.

Wills - Have you made one? Write your Will in the comfort of your own home. We will visit you in your own home at a time convenient to you to take your instructions for writing your Will, all at a set price of £45 for a single Will and £65 for 2 husband and wife Wills, plus VAT. Telephone 0244 831216 or write (no stamp required) to: Clwyd Wills, FREEPOST, Baines House, Glynne Street, Queensferry, Deeside, Clwyd CH5 1YZ. A 5% discount off stated prices to all Manweb employees for all enquiries received before August 11, 1991.

New Year '91/92 - Why not join the Liverpool Electric Power and Lighting Retired Members Group for a New Year holiday from December 30 to January 2 at the beautiful Sherwood Hotel, Torquay. Four days half board, £123. Tour includes return coach travel from Liverpool to Torquay, all rooms en-suite with tea and coffee-making facilities, colour tv, central heating throughout. Gala dinner New Year's Eve, dancing and cabaret, half day tour. Single room supplement £7.50. Contact Mrs Amy McDonnell on 051 489 4880.

LEISURE

Fishing Trips - and pleasure cruises aboard the DTI vessel 'Cerisamar' out of Beaumaris, Anglesey. Wreck, reef and general fishing. Pleasure cruises to Puffin Island. Competitive prices from £35. Full time skipper/owner Dave Jones, 2nd Coxswain Beaumaris Lifeboat and member of the National Federation of

Charter Skippers. Contact D. A. Jones on 0248 810746.

Sea Fishing - On board Miranda out of Holyhead, Anglesey. Deep sea, reef or wreck fishing. Trips arranged for 4 to 12 hours, licensed and insured for parties of 12. Boat hire from £50. Rods, tackle and bait available. Contact Kevin Wright, Miranda Sea Angling, Mon Elian, Moelfre, Anglesey, Gwynedd, tel. 0248 88459.

Fly Fishery - Gweryd Lodge, Llanarmon-yn-Ial, Mold. Superb fly fishing on a great 122-acre lake. Boats for hire. Contact John Stowell on 08243 230.

Tennis - Liverpool Electric Supply Tennis Club welcomes new members, established or beginners. Club sessions Sunday am/pm and Wednesday evenings. League matches played midweek evenings. Contact Ken Rigby at Lister Drive, int. ext. 2170 or 051-254 1900.

Salmon, Sea-Trout - Fishing on the Afon Dwyryd in the Vale of Ffestiniog. Enviably run of salmon and sea trout. Heaviest sea-trout 11 1/2lbs and heaviest salmon 141/4lbs last year, both caught on fly. Probably the best river in North Wales for ease of access to fly fish and all legal methods are permitted. Spinning, worming and shrimping all catching their share of fish. Three 1991 season tickets available at £220 each for over two-and-a-half miles, both sides of this beautiful river. For more information contact Gareth Price at the Tackle Shop, Ffestiniog, tel: 076676 2451.

TUITION

Driving lessons - Robin Jones School of Motoring. Department of Transport approved driving instructor. Member of the Institute of Advanced Motorists. ROSPA Advanced Driving Certificate. Member of the Motor Schools of Great Britain. Special discount for Manweb members. Beginners to advanced, motorway courses, dual control Metro, free pick up service. For details tel. 0860 783676 (daytime) or 051 339 8135 (evenings).

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PLEASE PRINT YOUR FREE AD. ON THIS COUPON OR ON PLAIN PAPER

(BLOCK CAPS PLEASE)

Name:

Work place (or retired)

Tel:

Send to: 'CONTACT' FREE ADS, MANWEB, SEALAND ROAD, CHESTER CH1 4LR.

Tee-time

THE beautifully situated Hill Valley Golf and Country Club in Oswestry District was once again the venue for 32 members and guests to do battle in the Pro/Am and Dee Valley Sports and Social Club Golf Competitions.

The morning weather conditions were not ideal when the Pro/Am, played as a nine-hole better ball Stableford competition, got underway.

The winners were Andy Brown (Network Services) and David Roberts (guest) with 22 points, beating Mike Gaskell (Trading) and Harold Mayhew (retired) on 21 points.

In 3rd place with 20 points were Brian Forbes (Trading) and Bob Morris (guest).

With the weather improving and all the previously mentioned players receiving handicap reductions, last year's winner Steve Evans (Trading) teed off in the Dee Valley Individual Stableford Competition. It was a case of 'horses for courses' when Steve posted 33 points, a score which could not be bettered by any of the other 31 players.

Andy Brown (Network Services), despite his handicap reduction, took 2nd prize with 31 points, winning on a card play off from Tom Morris (retired).

After an enjoyable meal, the Dee Valley Trophy and prizes were presented by Norman Clarke and Brian Doyle (both retired).



Sponsorship launch is plain sailing

WILLIAM Johnson from Llyn Brenig Sailing Club is pictured (above) putting the club's new Manweb-sponsored Optimist dinghy through its paces.

The handing over of the boat was performed by Dee Valley District Manager Dr Jim McLennan during Llyn Brenig's Try Sailing Day last month. Newcomers to sailing took up the club's invitation to sample life on the waves, 35 new families registering during the day.

Enjoyable

Dr McLennan said: "We're delighted to sponsor this Optimist dinghy, which will give youngsters the chance to try an extremely enjoyable

activity. I took a boat trip across the lake and can thoroughly recommend it!"

In the picture (right) Dr McLennan is shown (right) with William Johnson and Club Commodore Paul Oliver at Llyn Brenig.

The club sails a range of vessels, including Optimist, Topper, Mirror and Laser dinghies; catamarans for those who enjoy speed, and, for those who prefer stability, cruisers. A trimaran is also sailed which is suitable for the disabled.

plain sailing

Junior club members William Johnson and Kirsty Morgan held a sponsored 'capsize' during the sailing day, raising £35 for the Denbigh-based Tamil Nadu charity, which is helping the Indian village of Tamil Nadu become self sufficient in essentials such as water and food.

SPORT



Action replay for soccer support

MANWEB is kicking off the new football season by taking up its option to sponsor the Manweb Cymru Alliance League for a further two years.

The decision to renew the sponsorship follows the league's highly successful inaugural 1990/91 season.

Sixteen of the top clubs in North and Mid Wales are covered by the Manweb Cymru Alliance, and the sponsorship deal is worth more than £25,000 over three years.

The renewal was formally announced during a special lunch at Dee Valley District Office, where League Champions Flint Town United and runners up Caersws were also presented with commemorative certificates.

Manweb Chairman Bryan Weston said: "We were very pleased with the interest the new Manweb Cymru Alliance generated in its inaugural season, and had no hesitation in continuing our support."

Football Association of Wales Secretary Alun Evans added: "Manweb plc has been a pleasure to work with and the Manweb Cymru Alliance will help give a sound base for Welsh football in the future."

The Manweb Cymru Alliance was launched as a new initiative by the football league of Wales to encourage a co-ordinated approach to the game in the northern half of the Principality. The southern half of Wales is covered by the Abacus League, and both will ultimately feed into a new all Welsh league.

As well as sponsoring the Cymru Alliance Manweb is also supporting the Manweb Cymru Alliance League Cup competition which commences in January each season.

Pictured at the sponsorship announcement are (l-r): Flint Chairman Peter Bartley; Aberystwyth District Manager Terry Keenan; League Chairman Elfed Ellis; Caersws Life Member and Welsh FA Member Edward Griffiths; Caersws President Mike Jones; Dee Valley District Manager Dr Jim McLennan; Caersws Vice Chairman Wynne Jones; Caersws Chairman Dilwyn Lewis; Flint Secretary Nic Griffiths.

Best feet forward for a local charity

NORTH Mersey Mains Manager Don McRae put his best feet forward to help a Chester charity.

Don raised more than £500 when he successfully completed a 25-mile sponsored walk from Bridle Road, Bootle, to his home in Chester.

The money, which included a £150 donation from Manweb's Charity Chest scheme, set up to boost the fund-raising efforts of staff, was later presented to Chester Diocesan Adoption Society.

Don, 35, said: "My wife Sue and I recently adopted a baby girl from Chester Diocesan Adoption Society, and this was my way of saying thank you to them."

"I do enjoy walking, but I've never tackled anything like this since my school



days! Fortunately I suffered nothing worse than a few blisters."

A minor hiccup during the sponsored walk was getting from one side of the River Mersey to the other.

Don opted for a ferry ride - and the short rest proved a real tonic!

Don has worked for Manweb since leaving school, originally based in Gwynedd District and later moving to Management Services in Head Office.

He and his wife Sue adopted baby Rebecca just a few months ago and, after a three-year wait, it was a dream come true. Rebecca is now 10 months old.

Don said: "She's a wonderful, happy, smiling little girl and we really are grateful to the Adoption Society."

North Mersey staff are pictured giving Don (centre) an encouraging send-off at the start of his sponsored walk. Also pictured is wife Sue and baby Rebecca.